

Below are common beneficial insects in the AWPM region.

For more information, please go to www.pswcrl.ars.usda.gov/AWPM2/Index.html

Lady Beetle

- **Coleoptera: Coccinellidea**
- Prey primarily on aphids
 - Under favorable conditions, voracious predators
- Aphids can be the single food source
- Not capable of reducing heavy aphid population

Parasitic Wasp

- **Hymenoptera: Aphidiidae**
- *Lysiphlebus testaceipes* most important biological control agent
- Female stings the aphid, inserts egg into the aphid's body
 - When hatches, larvae feeds on the aphid
- Emerges as adult wasp
 - Often effective at maintaining aphids below economic levels



Lacewing

- **Neuroptera: Chrysopidae**
- Adult green lacewings are highly mobile
- Reproduce preferentially in habitats with abundant prey
- All larvae are predaceous
- Some species are predacious as adults but those in wheat feed on aphid honey dew, nectar, and pollen
- Not considered effective cereal aphid predator

Nabid

- **Hemiptera: Nabidae**
- Commonly called Damsel Bug
- Adults and nymphs are predaceous
- Nymphs are wingless
- Frequently among the most abundant predators in wheat fields
- Not considered highly effective in controlling cereal aphids



Our project is a collaborative effort, teaming the USDA Agricultural Research Service with growers and universities in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming.

